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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,925	07/31/2003	Masahiro Hori	02410339A	7577
30743	7590	05/17/2005	EXAMINER	
WHITHAM, CURTIS & CHRISTOFFERSON, P.C.			ASSAF, FAYEZ G	
11491 SUNSET HILLS ROAD				
SUITE 340			ART UNIT	
RESTON, VA 20190			PAPER NUMBER	
			2872	

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/630,925

Applicant(s)

HORI ET AL.

Examiner

Fayez G. Assaf

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 February 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21, 32 and 33 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 16-18, 21, 32 and 33 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 11-15, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-10, 16-18, 21, 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takada et al. (US 6,822,796 B2).

Regarding claims 1, 16-18, 21 and 33, Takada discloses an optical device comprising: a solid composition layer (11 of Fig. 1) having a predetermined protrusion or groove surface profile on a surface thereof; and a multi-layered dielectric film coating (13 of Fig. 1) the surface of the solid composition layer.

Takada teaches selecting various kinds of optical materials for the substrate and the multilayered film. The reference does not expressly teach the solid composition layer being resin or

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the multi-layered dielectric film's material being selected from SiO₂, TiO₂, Ta₂O₅, ZrO₂, Nb₂O₅ and MgF₂.

However, such determination of appropriate optical material(s) can be achieved by routine experimentation which does not serve as basis for patentability.

It would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to a person having ordinary skill in the art to provide the composition/optical material in order to improve thermal stability. Additionally, it has been held to be within the ordinary skill of worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use. *Sinclair & Carroll Co. v. Interchemical Corp.*, 325 U.S. 327, 65 USPQ 297 (1945).

Regarding claim 32, Takada discloses the claimed invention except for the profile including spherical, conical or angular conical profile.

However, the grooves/protrusion of the diffractive element of Takada can be of other shapes.

It would have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to a person having ordinary skill in the art to provide the element with such profiles so as to control the diffraction order and efficiency.

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Regarding claims 2-10, the invention as modified by proper choice of materials inherently disclose the glass transition temperature of the solid composition layer being not lower than 200°C; the linear thermal expansion coefficient of the solid composition layer being not larger than 150 ppm/°C or the weight reduction being not larger than 0.7%.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11-15, 19 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 11-15 and 20 are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the reason that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest providing at least one of heat or UV light to a fluid composition containing a polymerizable organic group on a substrate so as to polymerize and cure the fluid composition as set forth in claimed combination.

Claim 19 is allowable over the prior art of record for at least the reason that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest the solid composition layer polymerized and cured being coated with an SiO₂ film having a thickness of from 1 to 200 nm as set forth in claimed combination.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fayez G. Assaf whose telephone number is (571) 272-2307. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 M-F.

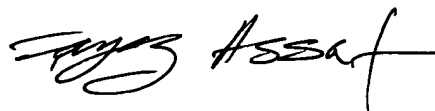
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Drew Dunn can be reached on (571) 272-2312. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FA

5/15/2005



FAYEZ G. ASSAF
PRIMARY EXAMINER